

Message Text

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47

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 IOE-00

SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 ACDA-05 /097 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2124

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4345

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN

SUBJ: UNGA GENERAL COMMITTEE ON KOREA

REFS: (A) USUN 4258 (NOTAL); (B) USUN 4337

1. SUMMARY: THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S (UNGA) NEW GENERAL COMMITTEE (REF (B)) MET FOR THE FIRST TIME SEPTEMBER 17. IT CONSIDERED THE AGENDA FOR THE 30TH UNGA. THE COMMITTEE VOTED TO INSCRIBE THE FRIENDLY AND HOSTILE ITEMS ON KOREA. ADDITIONALLY, IT VOTED TO MERGE THESE ITEMS UNDER THE HEADING "QUESTION OF KOREA." IN THE PROCESS, HOWEVER, THE HOSTILE ITEM GAINED PRIORITY OF LISTING AS SUB-HEADING (A).
END SUMMARY.

2. THE TWENTY-FIVE MEMBERS UNGA GENERAL COMMITTEE, WHICH INCLUDES 17 COMMUNIST AND/OR NONALIGNED MEMBERS, MET AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 17 TO CONSIDER UNGA AGENDA. AGENDA ITEMS 120 AND 121 CONCERNED FRIENDLY AND HOSTILE ITEMS ON KOREA RESPECTIVELY. AFTER VIGOROUS ATTACK ON FRIENDLY ITEM LED BY CHINA, USSR, SENEGAL AND YUGOSLAVIA (WHICH, THOUGH NOT A MEMBER OF COMMITTEE, ASKED TO SPEAK AND WAS ACTIVE ON FLOOR), COMMITTEE VOTED 9-8-7 TO INSCRIBE FRIENDLY ITEM; 17-0-7 TO INSCRIBE HOSTILE ITEM; AND 9-9-5 TO MERGE ITEMS UNDER THE HEADING "QUESTION OF KOREA". AS IS TRADITIONAL, CHAIRMAN THORN OF LUXEMBOURG DID NOT VOTE. IT IS PERHAPS WORTH NOTING THAT ONLY 2 CO-SPONSORS OF FRIENDLY ITEM ARE ON GENERAL COMMITTEE, AGAINST 7 CO-SPONSORS OF HOSTILE ITEM.

3. THE MERGER VOTE WAS ON TUNISIA'S PROPOSAL TO PUT THE ITEMS UNDER ONE HEADING WITH THE FRIENDLY ITEM LISTED UNDER SUB-HEADING (A) AND THE HOSTILE UNDER SUB-HEADING (B). SENEGAL HAD INITIALLY PROPOSED A REVERSED MERGER WITH THE FRIENDLY ITEM UNDER SUB-HEADING (B) AND THE HOSTILE UNDER SUB-HEADING (A). CHAIRMAN THORN, IN HIS FIRST TRICK AT THE HELM, MADE THE UNFORTUNATE RULING THAT HE WOULD PUT TUNISIA'S PROPOSAL TO A VOTE AND IF THE TUNISIAN PROPOSAL LOST, HE WOULD CONSIDER THE SENEGALESE PROPOSAL THEREBY CARRIED. WITH
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THE VOTE A TIE IN COMMITTEE, TUNISIA'S PROPOSAL LOST AND THE HOSTILE ITEM THEREBY GAINED PRIORITY OF LISTING AS SUB-HEADING (A).

4. THE VOTING WAS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) INSCRIPTION OF FRIENDLY ITEM: IN FAVOR:
BARBADOS, FRANCE, HONDURAS, NORWAY, PERU, SIERRA LEONE,

SWEDEN, UK, US - (9); AGAINST : BULGARIA, CHINA, CUBA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, MONGOLIA, MOZAMBIQUE, SENEGAL AND THE USSR (8); ABSTENTIONS: BAHRAIN, BANGLADESH, KENYA, LEBANON, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, TUNISIA, ZAIRE (7).

(B) INSCRIPTION OF HOSTILE ITEM: IN FAVOR: BANGALADESH, BARBADOS, BULGARIA, CHINA, CUBA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, FRANCE, HONDURAS, KENYA, MONGOLIA, MOZAMBIQUE, NORWAY, PERU, SENEGAL, SIERRA LEONE, SWEDEN USSR AND ZAIRE (17); AGAINST - NONE; ABSTENTION: BAHRAIN, FRANCE, LEBANON, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, TUNISIA, UK, US (7).

(C) TUNISIA'S MERGER PROPOSAL: IN FAVOR: BARBADOS, FRANCE, HONDURAS, NORWAY, SIERRA LEONE, SWEDEN, TUNISIA, UK, US (9); AGAINST: BULGARIA, CHINA, CUBA, KENYA, MONGOLIA, MOZAMBIQUE, SENEGAL AND USSR; (9); ABSTENTION: BAHRAIN, BANGLADESH, LEBANON, PERU, ZAIRE (5); DID NOT VOTE - TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO (1).

5. COMMENT: THE SIX COMMUNIST MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE PLUS MOZAMBIQUE AND SENEGAL VOTED AS A BLOC THROUGHOUT. THEY WERE JOINED BY KENYA ON THE MERGER VOTE. PERU WHICH HAD VOTED FOR INSCRIPTION OF THE FRIENDLY ITEM SLIPPED TO ABSTENTION ON THE MERGER ITEM.

6. THE LIBERAL-INSCRIPTION TRADITION WAS REFLECTED BY THE FACT THAT THERE WERE NO VOTES AGAINST INSCRIPTION OF HOSTILE ITEM.

7. LEBANON, WHICH IN MORNING, HAD BEEN ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE WHERE THE DEBATE ON KOREA WILL BE HELD, ABSTAINED ON ALL THE VOTES. PERU'S ABSTENTION ON THE MERGER ITEM, AFTER VOTING WITH US ON INSCRIPTION
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OF OUR ITEM AND THUS PROVIDING THE ONE VOTE MARGIN, SURELY REFLECTED ITS NONALIGNED ROLE. SIERRA LEONE'S SUPPORT OF THE FRIENDLY AND MERGER ITEMS WAS NOTABLE. SENEGAL, WITH YUGOSLAVIA LEANING OVER HIS SHOULDER TO GIVE ADVICE, WAS ESPECIALLY PROMINENT IN PROMOTING THE HOSTILE POSITION.

8. WE MUST ASSUME THAT SENEGAL'S PROPOSAL IN SEEKING A REVERSAL OF THE ORDERING OF THE TWO SUB-ITEMS IS TO LAY GROUND FOR A LATER CLAIM IN THE FIRST COMMITTEE THAT A DECISION HAS ALREADY BEEN TAKEN TO ACCORD VOTING PRIORITY TO THE HOSTILE DRAFT RESOLUTION. FROM A LEGAL VIEWPOINT, SUCH AN ARGUMENT IS NOT MERITORIOUS BECAUSE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 131 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE, THE PROPOSAL TABLED EARLIER IS TO BE VOTED ON FIRST UNLESS THE

FIRST COMMITTEE WERE TO DECIDE OTHERWISE. NEVERTHELESS, THE FACT THAT THE GENERAL COMMITTEE DECIDED TO RECOMMEND THE LISTING OF THE HOSTILE SUB-ITEM FIRST, PROVIDES A BASIS FOR THIS SORT OF CONTENTION, AND THE WHOLE MATTER OF VOTING PRIORITIES WILL IN ANY EVENT HAVE BECOME MORE CLOUDED.

9. UNDER THE SECRETARY'S INSTRUCTIONS AS RELAYED TO US, WE RECOMMEND, WHILE RECOGNIZING FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES IN U.S. AND SENEGALESE VIEWPOINTS, THAT STRONGEST REPRESENTATIONS BE MADE TO SENEGAL FOR ITS HOSTILE ATTITUDE ON THE KOREAN QUESTION. ADDITIONALLY, WE RECOMMEND MAKING OUR FEELINGS VERY CLEAR TO KENYA, ZAIRE, BAHRAIN, BANGLADESH AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO THAT WE FOUND THEIR LEVEL OF SUPPORT DISAPPOINTING. BAHRAIN AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO WERE AT LEAST CONSISTENT IN ABSTAINING THROUGHOUT. HOWEVER, KENYA, ZAIRE AND BANGLADESH ABSTAINED ON INSCRIPTION OF FRIENDLY ITEM AND VOTED FOR INSCRIPTION OF HOSTILE ITEM. KENYA WENT ON TO VOTE WITH COMMUNIST SIDE ON TUNISIAN MERGER PROPOSAL.

10. ON A POSITIVE NOTE, WE THINK SIERRA LEONE DESERVES FULL MARKS FOR ITS BACKING OF THE FRIENDLY SIDE. YUGOSLAV ACTIONS YESTERDAY AND ELSEWHERE DURING OPENING DAYS OF 30TH GA WILL BE SUBJECT OF SEPTEL.
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